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Kia Silverbrook

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SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

HUFFMAN, JULIAN D

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1, 14, 21-23, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin (U.S. 20020171692) in view of Okada et al. (JP 7-156496).

Martin discloses:

With regards to claim 1, a printer (fig. 2, element 18) for producing rolls of wallpaper (0009), comprising:

a cabinet in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area (fig. 2);

a printhead (20) located in the media path;

a processor (38) configured to monitor operation parameters of the printer, which accepts operator inputs from one or more input devices (36, 37) which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

the winding area adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer wherein (fig. 2), the length and design of the roll are determined by the operator inputs (0010).

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The limitation of "the printer printing a particular roll of wallpaper having the selected pattern or patterns printed thereon in accordance with the monitored operation parameters and operator inputs" does not further define any structure of the apparatus. See MPEP 2114.

Further, the language "monitored operation parameters" is broad and reads on operations such as monitoring the status of the printer to determine if it is ready for printing, or if a cartridge is present, etc.

With regards to claim 14, a printer as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

the path comprises a generally straight path (fig. 2).

With regards to claims 21-23, the printing rate is given little weight and does not substantially further limit the structure of the device. Martin is capable of printing at the claimed rates.

With regards to claim 40, a printer as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a frame in which is located a media path which extends from a media loading area to a winding area (fig. 2);

a printhead (20) located across the media path;

one or more input devices for capturing operator instructions (36, 37);

a processor (38) which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll; and

the winding area adapted to removably retain a core and wind onto it, wallpaper produced by the printer (fig. 2).

Martin discloses everything claimed with the exception of a bar code scanner.

Okada discloses a bar code used to select patterns of images to be printed on a printer, wherein the printer creates the print data based on operator inputs performed using a bar code scanner (0013, 0018, 0020, 0022, 0027).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention incorporate the bar code selection of Okada into Martin and to use the scanner in the manner claimed for the purpose of enabling the selection of images without a personal computer (0027).

Claims 8, 9, 24-31, 44, 45 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin in view of Okada et al. as applied to claims 1, 14, 21-23, and 40 above, and further in view of Silverbrook (U.S. 20020154189 A1).

Martin as modified discloses everything claimed with the exception of a full width color printhead located on a rail along which it slides for service and removal with more than 250,000 nozzles which prints ink drops with a volume of less than 1.5 picoliters, the full width printhead being supplied with a number of different inks which are remote from the printhead and which supply the printhead through tubes/disconnect coupling and an ink supply harness.

Silverbrook discloses a printhead with 552,960 nozzle arrangements (0090) that prints ink drops with a volume of 1 picolitre (0092). Further, the printhead is a full-width printhead which is supplied with a number of different inks which are remote from the printhead and which supply the printhead through tubes/disconnect coupling and an ink

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supply harness (0056). The printhead is located on a rail along which it slides for service and removal (0054).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the printhead assembly of Silverbrook in the printer of Martin for the purpose of providing a high speed, high resolution printhead.

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin in view of Okada et al. as applied to claims 1, 4, 5, 14, 21-23, and 40 above and further in view of Hashi et al. (JP 2003-165205A).

With regards to claim 48, Martin as modified discloses a printer as claimed in claim 1 wherein the printer is a self threading printer for producing rolls of wallpaper, comprising:

a media loading area adapted to support a media cartridge (24) in a position so that a media supply slot (slot is provided in printer cabinet so media may enter cabinet) of the cartridge is closely adjacent to a pilot guide (rollers at the upstream side that guide the media to the printer);

a cabinet housing a media path which extends from the pilot guide to a printed media dispensing slot (fig. 2);

a printhead (20) located across the media path;

a processor (38) which accepts operator inputs which are used to configure the printer for producing a particular roll;

a motor within the cabinet for advancing a media web out of the media cartridge (28 is a drive roller, which is thus driven by a motor).

Martin does not expressly disclose the claimed one or more other motors adapted to urge the media along the path and out of the slot.

Hashi et al. discloses a first motor for advancing a media web out of a media cartridge (fig. 5, element 34) and a second motor for winding up the media (element 33).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the motors of Hashi et al. into the invention of Martin for the purpose of enabling the media to be fed from the cartridge and wound up on the take-up reel.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 22 September 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the reasons provided in the rejection above (see underlined text).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julian D. Huffman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2147. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00a.m.-6:30p.m. Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Julian D. Huffman/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2853